



Inhalants

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Learning Objectives

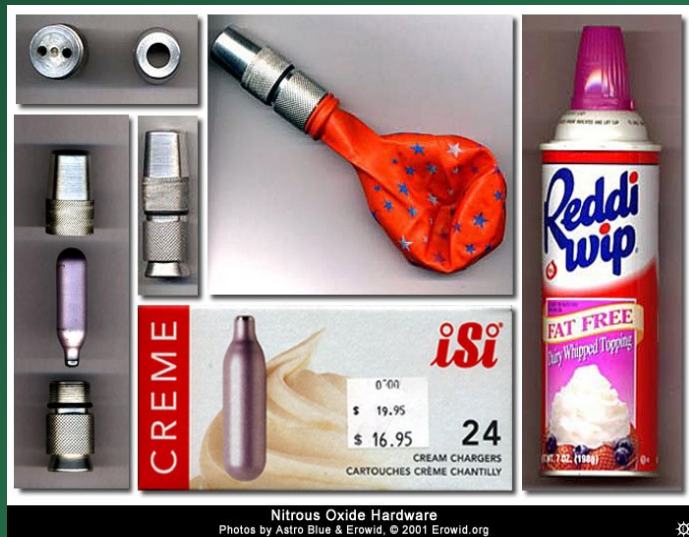
- Identify the three classes of inhalants.
- Identify the types of inhalants that are abused.





What are Inhalants?

- Breathable chemical vapors that produce mind altering effects.
- There are three types of inhalants
 - Solvents
 - Gases
 - Nitrites
- Street names include *poppers, snappers, ozone.*





How are Inhalants Abused?

- Inhalants are ingested into the body by breathing in the vapors of the product. Several methods of inhalation can be used by abusers:
 - Using a bag
 - Using a rag
 - Using pressurized containers





Effects of Inhalants

- Chronic Memory Loss
- Emotional Instability
- Slurred Speech
- Body Tremors
- Sight Disorders
- Liver Damage
- Hearing Loss
- Kidney Damage
- Bone Marrow Damage
- Paralysis
- Brain Damage
- Sudden Sniffing Death





Inhalants & Brain Damage

A. **Brain** - Inhalants abuse causes a variety of serious sensory and psychological disorders.

B. **Cerebral Cortex** - Inhalant abuse causes personality changes, memory loss, hallucinations, and learning disabilities.

C. **Cerebellum** - Inhalant abuse causes loss of coordination, slurred speech, chronic tremors, and uncontrollable shaking.

D. **Ophthalmic Nerve** - Inhalant abuse can cause serious sight disorders, including blindness.





Products Abused

- Rubber Cement
- Hair Spray
- Fabric Protector
- Chloroform
- Paint Thinner
- White Out
- Whippets



- Toxic Markers
- Lighter Fluid
- Gasoline
- Octane Booster
- Nitrous Oxide
- Room Deodorizer
- Helium





Additional Information

Additional information on inhalants can be found by contacting the Army Substance Abuse Program or by visiting <http://www.acsap.army.mil>.

